

To : Commissioner for Patents
Fax # : 1-571-273-8300
Sender : Beth A Sanders
Date : 10/03/2005
Re : Appl. Serial No. 10/624,185

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Response to Office Action dated 1 July 2005

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OCT 03 2005

Applicants:

Philip James Rae et al

Serial No.: 10/624,185*Filing Date:* July 22, 2003*Title:* Acidizing Stimulation Method Using
A pH Buffered Acid Solution§ *Art Group No.:* 3676

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§ *Examiner:* Zakiya Nicole Walker

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Attorney Docket No.: 020569-00700
(P202-1231-US)Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 1 JULY 2005**

This communication is in response to the Office Action of July 1, 2005.

REMARKS

Claims in the Application. Claims 1-29 are active in the application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Examiner's Rejection Over *Shuchart*. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 17 and 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,531,427 ("*Shuchart*"). This ground of rejection is traversed. The Examiner indicates that *Shuchart* discloses a buffered acid solution void of hydrofluoric acid, as claimed by Applicants. This, however, is not the case. Note, for instance, col. 3, ll. 40-55 of *Shuchart* which discloses a preflush of an aqueous solution of ammonium chloride or hydrofluoric acid followed by an aqueous organic acid solution containing HF. *Shuchart* does not disclose nor exemplify the use of a buffered acid solution void of HF for dissolving acid soluble siliceous or carbonate